

today. If my colleagues insist on moving forward with legislation that empowers union bosses and strips independence from our workers, we will lose to countries like China, who profit from sweatshops and child labor.

Many of the ideas in this bill have already been rejected in the court system, making this bill pointless and a waste of time.

THIS PANDEMIC REQUIRES A BOLD INVESTMENT

(Mr. CARBAJAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic requires bold investment, and that is what the American Rescue Plan is.

This bill invests \$20 billion to get shots in arms and make sure everyone knows where, when, and how to get a vaccine.

Many students are back in school or are going back soon. California will get \$15 billion to reopen safely and keep schools open to make up for lost time.

We have also invested in the backbone of our economy: small businesses. In fact, economists believe this bill can bring us back to near full employment in about a year.

To ensure local governments can keep providing essential services, this bill delivers over \$259 million to cities and counties in my district alone.

Finally, this package invests in the American people. Direct payments, unemployment benefits, tax credits, and healthcare subsidies will help lift 12 million people out of poverty.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to voting for this bill.

SPENDING BILL IS NOT TARGETED, TIMELY, NOR TIED TO COVID RELIEF

(Mrs. WAGNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the partisan \$1.9 trillion spending bill before us today.

It is shameful that Democrats have disregarded their obligation to provide real COVID relief to the American people and are instead attempting to use this process to jam through partisan agenda items.

This bill is not targeted, timely, nor tied to COVID relief. We need to focus on solving the critical issues at hand: getting vaccines to Americans; providing relief for our local businesses, restaurants, and entertainment venues; and supporting those who have been seriously impacted by this pandemic.

Only 9 percent of this massive \$1.9 trillion package goes to fighting COVID-19, and outside of stimulus payments, nearly half won't even be spent this year. It is simply unfathomable that Democrats want to spend money years down the road when we have so many pressing needs to address today.

We have worked in a bipartisan manner to pass five—five—relief measures, and I am disappointed that the Democrats have decided to be so egregiously partisan in a time of crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

A MAJORITY OF AMERICANS SUPPORT UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, more than 90 percent of Americans support universal background checks for those purchasing guns. Today, I urge my colleagues to do the same by supporting H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446. These bills will keep guns out of the hands of those who aren't allowed to have them in the first place.

For years, I have introduced a bill to prevent people from skirting the background check process by purchasing guns at gun shows, and I am very glad that H.R. 8 accomplishes this. If you can't buy a gun from a licensed dealer, you shouldn't be able to buy a gun anywhere, especially at a gun show.

H.R. 1446 closes the Charleston loophole, which allows individuals to buy guns before their background check is completed. Ensuring community safety shouldn't have a 72-hour clock.

With gun deaths and gun sales surging in 2020, we must act now to close these loopholes and meaningfully combat gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on these two votes today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GLENNA FOUBERG

(Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, Glenna Foubert was a force of nature. Her list of accomplishments makes that clear.

She made real and lasting contributions to at-risk youth, the board of education, the Indian Education Summit, Teach for America, YMCA, Northern State, and her church. She was named South Dakota Teacher of the Year in 1994, and she was a member of the South Dakota Hall of Fame. As I said, she was a force of nature.

But Glenna Foubert was not a list of accomplishments to me, Mr. Speaker. She was a friend. For 20 years, she gave me advice and counsel. Like a good teacher, she always gave it to me straight.

She gave gifts like that to so many. Earlier this week, I was talking to my friend Tom, who said that during the pandemic, 78-year-old Glenna Foubert, a force of nature and a legend, had been teaching his 12-year-old daughter how to knit.

When Glenna died in January, she left behind her loving family and thousands of us to whom she had taught so much.

TODAY WE ARE HELPING MAIN STREET

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, the House will vote to approve the American Rescue Plan for poor and middle America.

The false choice of Wall Street or Main Street is no more. This plan helps the neighborhood streets and the homes where real people live and struggle every day.

This plan is supported by 75 percent of the American people. It will help the cities of Niagara Falls and Buffalo, the county of Erie; will return the American economy to full employment; and will grow that economy by 6 percent, a rate not seen in many, many decades. This is a good plan that provides direct assistance to the people of this country who need it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this plan.

HONORING THE SELFLESS BRAVERY OF TIMOTHY CHADWICK, SR.

(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the selfless bravery and service of a member of my community in New York's 22nd Congressional District, Timothy Chadwick, Sr.

Mr. Chadwick served our country in the Air Force during the Vietnam war. Timothy's story is shared by so many Vietnam veterans across our country. While serving in Laos, Timothy was exposed to Agent Orange, which has plagued his health ever since.

Many U.S. servicemembers who were stationed in Vietnam were exposed to the toxic herbicide known as Agent Orange. As a result, our veterans are at an increased risk of developing cancer, Parkinson's disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and many other deadly illnesses.

These brave veterans risked everything to defend our freedom, and they deserve our support as they overcome the effects of their service. I will never stop standing up and fighting for veterans like they stood up and fought for us.

God bless men like Timothy Chadwick and so many others who served our Nation honorably, and God bless all the men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

SALUTING ALIYAH BOSTON

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this month is not only Women's History Month, but it is also Virgin Islands History Month, and what better way to celebrate it than today for me to salute Virgin Islands' native and basketball upcoming star, Aliyah Boston, who had another dominant performance in South Carolina's 67-62 win over Georgia in the SEC tournament final.

Boston put up 27 points and 10 rebounds for her 15th double-double of the year, and was named the tournament MVP as South Carolina captured its sixth championship in the last 7 years.

"Aliyah was huge," said Coach Dawn Staley after the game. "She has to be that dominant in order for us to win these kind of basketball games."

Aliyah, you are huge. You are dominant. And what better way to recognize Women's History Month and Virgin Islands History Month by a Virgin Islander and a woman making history.

□ 0915

IT IS TIME TO PUT STUDENTS FIRST

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, just over 1 year ago, we entered a COVID crackdown. Businesses and schools shut their doors—some of them, sadly, for good. Communities across the Nation continue to feel this pain.

For more than 365 days, far too many of our Nation's school children have been confined to virtual learning—forced to sit at home behind a computer instead of a classroom.

The implications of students being left out of the classroom are much bigger than parents being inconvenienced or students missing their friends. Every day that we wait to reopen our schools is another day we look the other way as youth mental health continues to plummet.

Every day we wait to reopen our schools is another day our students fall behind.

Mr. Speaker, allowing American school children to return to the classroom is long overdue.

It is time to listen to the science. It is time to put the students first. And it is time to reopen our schools.

A PLEA TO ALL TEXANS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this morning I make a personal plea to my fellow Texans.

I recognize that there has been an overload of tiredness and desire to go

back to work and maybe a desire to party.

Unfortunately, with bad advice and political emphasis, the mask order will be lifted today on March 10 in our State.

Our State is being plagued by the United Kingdom variant. We are still on the hot list for the number of deaths. We have not reached a certain number in terms of lowering the infection rate, and we haven't reached any kind of level in terms of vaccination.

Removing the restrictions and having remove-mask parties is going to be a disaster.

I make this plea: Wear your mask, socially distance. Restaurants and other businesses be responsible.

We are on the way with a rescue, but I beg of my fellow Texans, let us not go backwards to create more deaths, to create more hospitalizations, more loved ones that we will not have at the dinner table.

This is not a time to go backwards. This is a time to go forward. Wear your mask. Let's be responsible.

I ask my constituents on Washington Avenue: Do not have a remove-mask party tonight because you will be walking into a destiny of death.

EXCUSES

(Mr. BARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, after enactment of five bipartisan COVID relief bills last year totaling \$4 trillion in assistance for healthcare workers, businesses, schools, testing, and vaccines, with over \$1 trillion in already appropriated funds still unspent, with an unprecedented level of monetary stimulus from the Fed already in the pipeline with no end in sight, with massive pent-up demand and an economy poised for full recovery, with the success of Operation Warp Speed delivering multiple safe and effective vaccines in record time, with literally millions of Americans benefiting from the mass distribution of those vaccines every single day, with all of these heroic efforts to defeat this virus already in place, why is it that Democrats in Congress are so determined at all costs to ram through this hyperpartisan \$2 trillion spending spree with zero bipartisan support?

The answer is that they are exploiting this pandemic as an excuse:

An excuse to force passage of this budget-busting monstrosity, 90 percent of which is totally unrelated to COVID-19:

An excuse to bail out mismanaged State and local governments for liabilities unrelated to COVID.

An excuse to use taxpayer funds to fund Planned Parenthood.

An excuse to send stimulus checks to prisoners and illegal immigrants.

An excuse to expand the welfare state and pay people not to work.

In sum, an excuse to advance an unrelated liberal agenda Democrats call the "most progressive bill in American history" that will lead to huge tax increases.

I urge all my colleagues to vote "no."

REOPEN AMERICA

(Mrs. GREENE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague and the good gentleman here for explaining why \$1.9 trillion in spending is reckless, irresponsible, and the wrong thing to do.

We still have \$1 trillion set aside for COVID relief and spending. There is no need to enslave the American people, our children, our grandchildren, our great grandchildren, and generations going forward in more debt.

We are \$28 trillion in debt. This Congress is ramming through unbelievable things at a rapid pace.

This must be stopped. We have to give pause and consideration to what we are doing. This is a waste of money and a complete waste of time.

Reopening America is a much better way to go.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. GREENE).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 149, nays 235, not voting 47, as follows:

[Roll No. 71]

YEAS—149

Aderholt	Clyde	Gonzales, Tony
Allen	Cole	Good (VA)
Armstrong	Comer	Gooden (TX)
Arrington	Crawford	Graves (LA)
Baird	Davidson	Graves (MO)
Balderson	Davis, Rodney	Greene (GA)
Barr	DesJarlais	Griffith
Bentz	Diaz-Balart	Grothman
Bergman	Donalds	Guest
Biggs	Duncan	Guthrie
Bilirakis	Dunn	Hagedorn
Bishop (NC)	Emmer	Harshbarger
Boebert	Estes	Hartzler
Bost	Fallon	Hern
Brady	Feenstra	Herrell
Brooks	Ferguson	Hice (GA)
Bucshon	Fischbach	Hill
Budd	Fitzgerald	Hollingsworth
Burchett	Fleischmann	Hudson
Cammack	Franklin, C.	Huizenga
Carl	Scott	Jackson
Carter (GA)	Fulcher	Johnson (OH)
Cawthorn	Garbarino	Johnson (SD)
Chabot	Garcia (CA)	Jordan
Cline	Gimenez	Joyce (PA)
Cloud	Gohmert	Keller